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UNCLAS AMMAN 004664

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

DEPARTMENT FOR DS COMMAND CENTER, DS/IP/NEA, NEA/EX, INL;
BAGHDAD FOR INL AND CENTCOM

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ASEC](#) [IZ](#) [JO](#)

SUBJECT: DISTURBANCE AMONG IRAQI POLICE TRAINEES AT JIPTC

REF: DS/CC AND RSO AMMAN TELECONS

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED - PROTECT ACCORDINGLY

1. SUMMARY: On the evening of June 10, Iraqi police officers and police cadets at the Jordanian International Police Training Center (JIPTC) engaged in unruly and at times violent conduct over the course of three hours. Several hundred trainees damaged thirty vehicles, broke windows of four administrative buildings, and injured six JIPTC security personnel and one Jordanian police officer. The trainees returned to their barracks after GOJ police responded and calmed the situation through negotiations. A firearm stolen from a Jordanian police vehicle was subsequently recovered. JIPTC resumed a modified training schedule June 11, and expects to return to normal operations June 12. END SUMMARY

2. JIPTC, a facility run by State/INL and DoD utilizes international police officers/contractors and GOJ police officers to train Iraqi police cadets. Of the 3,000 Iraqis presently training at JIPTC, approximately 1,300 of them are active duty Iraqi police, who are receiving their basic police training for the first time.

3. On Friday June 10 from approximately 2200 hours to 0100 hours June 11, an estimated 1,500 Iraqi police and police cadets became disorderly; roughly 400 of these played an active role in the destruction of property and assaults on security personnel. As a result of the riot, thirty official and personal vehicles were damaged, and windows were broken in four JIPTC administrative buildings. Six JIPTC security personnel (contracted through DynCorp) and one GOJ police officer suffered minor injuries after rioters hit them with rocks or physically assaulted them.

4. The disturbances may have grown out of rumors circulating in the camp that cadets returning overland to their homes in Iraq had been attacked by insurgents, and by fear that four trainees in the infirmary were about to be dismissed and also sent home overland. A large group of cadets removed these four from the infirmary, and, emboldened by this success, began stoning buildings and vehicles. However, senior Jordanian police officials have expressed doubt that the rumored insurgent attack was the true reason for the riot, and are conducting investigations.

5. GOJ security responded in force but opted to calm the situation through negotiations rather than to actively confront the rioters. After discussions with the GOJ police were held, the rioters returned to their barracks. It was later discovered that a weapon was stolen during the riot from a severely damaged GOJ police vehicle. Consequently, the JIPTC telephone tree was activated to advise all international police trainers to avoid the center until further notice. After addressing the trainees, JIPTC staff was successful in recovering the weapon with all of its ammunition.

6. The situation in JIPTC is presently calm. Iraqi trainees were put through a full day of marching drills and physical training June 11. Some were authorized to proceed on a previously-scheduled educational field trip, with Jordanian security escorts as is normal practice. International police trainers will return to JIPTC June 12, and the center will proceed with a full normal training schedule. JIPTC staff and GOJ police will continue efforts to find those responsible for the riot and to prevent a similar event from occurring. JIPTC staff will proceed cautiously, however, to avoid inciting further disruptions.

HENZEL